

Ethics Committee Agenda



To: Councillor Leila Ben-Hassel (Chair)
Councillor Brigitte Graham (Vice-Chair)
Councillors Jade Appleton, Helen Redfern, Esther Sutton and
Luke Shortland

Independent Persons: Jennifer Gordon, Ashok Kumar and Alan Malarkey

Reserve Members: Councillors Jeet Bains, Richard Chatterjee, Clive Fraser,
Holly Ramsey and Catherine Wilson

A meeting of the **Ethics Committee** which you are hereby summoned to attend, will be held on **Wednesday, 15 November 2023** at **6.30 pm** in **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Katharine Street, Croydon CR0 1NX**

Stephen Lawrence-Orumwense
Monitoring Officer
London Borough of Croydon
Bernard Weatherill House
8 Mint Walk, Croydon CR0 1EA

Klaudia Petecka, Democratic Services
klaudia.petecka@croydon.gov.uk
www.croydon.gov.uk/meetings
Tuesday, 7 November 2023

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting. If you would like to record the meeting, we ask that you read the guidance on the recording of public meetings [here](#) before attending.

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If you require any assistance, please contact the person detailed above, on the righthand side.

AGENDA – PART A

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence from any Members of the Committee.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 5 - 8)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2023 as an accurate record.

3. Disclosure of Interests

Members are invited to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs) they may have in relation to any item(s) of business on today's agenda.

4. Urgent Business (if any)

To receive notice of any business not on the agenda which in the opinion of the Chair, by reason of special circumstances, be considered as a matter of urgency.

5. Work Programme (Pages 9 - 12)

To consider the Committee work programme for the remainder of the Municipal Year.

6. Member Gifts and Hospitality (Pages 13 - 18)

Members must comply with the Members' Code of Conduct including the requirements around declaring gifts and hospitality. Appendix A to this report provides the details of gifts and hospitality declared by Members since the Committee was last updated on declarations of this nature.

7. Recent Developments in Ethical Standards Report (Pages 19 - 26)

It is a function of Ethics Committee, among other matters to support the statutory role of the Monitoring Officer as set out in Article 9 of the Constitution, including the promotion of high standards of Member conduct and receiving reports from the Monitoring Officer on matters of probity and ethics.

8. Review of Ethics Arrangements (Pages 27 - 34)

This report sets out the outcome of the review of the Council's Members Code of Conduct and arrangements for dealing with allegations of breach of the Code. The report confirms that the Council's

arrangements are effective and in accordance with the statutory requirements. There are tidying up amendments required to the Code and the arrangements which will be the subject of a further report to the Committee.

9. Update on Ethics Complaints Received in the Second and Third Quarters of 2023 (Pages 35 - 42)

The Council has determined that the Ethics Committee shall be responsible for receiving and considering reports on matters of probity and ethics.

10. Independent Person Appointment (Pages 43 - 48)

The Ethics Committee, on the 19 April 2023, due to a vacancy which had arisen, agreed to commence a recruitment process under the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 to ensure a sufficient pool of Independent Persons.

11. Exclusion of the Press and Public

The following motion is to be moved and seconded where it is proposed to exclude the press and public from the remainder of a meeting:

“That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within those paragraphs indicated in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.”

PART B

12. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 49 - 50)

13. Appendix B - Complaints Quarterly Report (Pages 51 - 58)

14. Appendix A - Part B recommendations to the Ethics Committee (Pages 59 - 62)